

CLIVE BARKER'S
HELLRAISER™

BOOM! 9
STUDIOS

THE DARK WATCH



SUGGESTED FOR MATURE READERS

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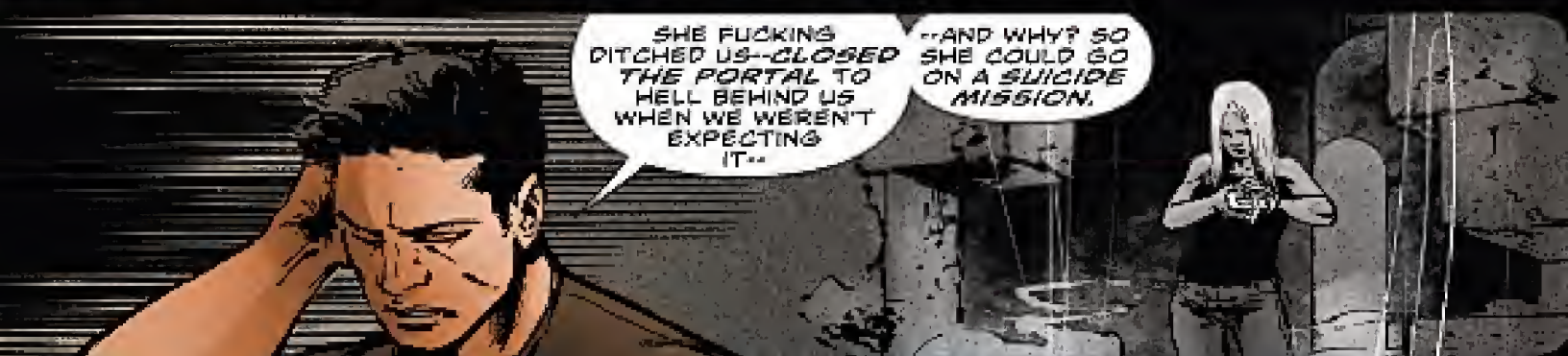


I CAN'T BELIEVE IT.

HELPING THE CENOBITES DOESN'T SIT WELL WITH US EITHER, THEO.

NOT THAT, JEEVES!

TIFFANY.



SHE FUCKING DITCHED US--CLOSED THE PORTAL TO HELL BEHIND US WHEN WE WEREN'T EXPECTING IT--

--AND WHY? SO SHE COULD GO ON A SUICIDE MISSION.



A "SUICIDE MISSION" TO RESCUE HER MOTHER FIGURE--OR HER SISTER FIGURE---

--OR WHATEVER IT IS KIRSTY COTTON IS TO HER. THAT'S REALLY SO HARD FOR YOU TO BELIEVE, THEO?

SHE SHOULD'VE ASKED US TO HELP HER. WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE A TEAM, OR WHATEVER.



SAVING KIRSTY ISN'T "TEAM" BUSINESS FOR TIFFANY, THEO, IT'S PERSONAL. BELIEVE ME--

--I CAN RELATE.



BUT--

I KNOW IT HURT YOUR FEELINGS WHEN TIFFANY RAN OFF WITHOUT YOU, THEO, BUT WE'VE GOT IMPORTANT BUSINESS WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT.

SPECIFICALLY--



--WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO NOW?



MAYBE TIFFANY WILL COME BACK. WITH KIRSTY. MAYBE SHE'LL COME BACK EMPTY-HANDED.

MAYBE SHE WON'T COME BACK AT ALL.

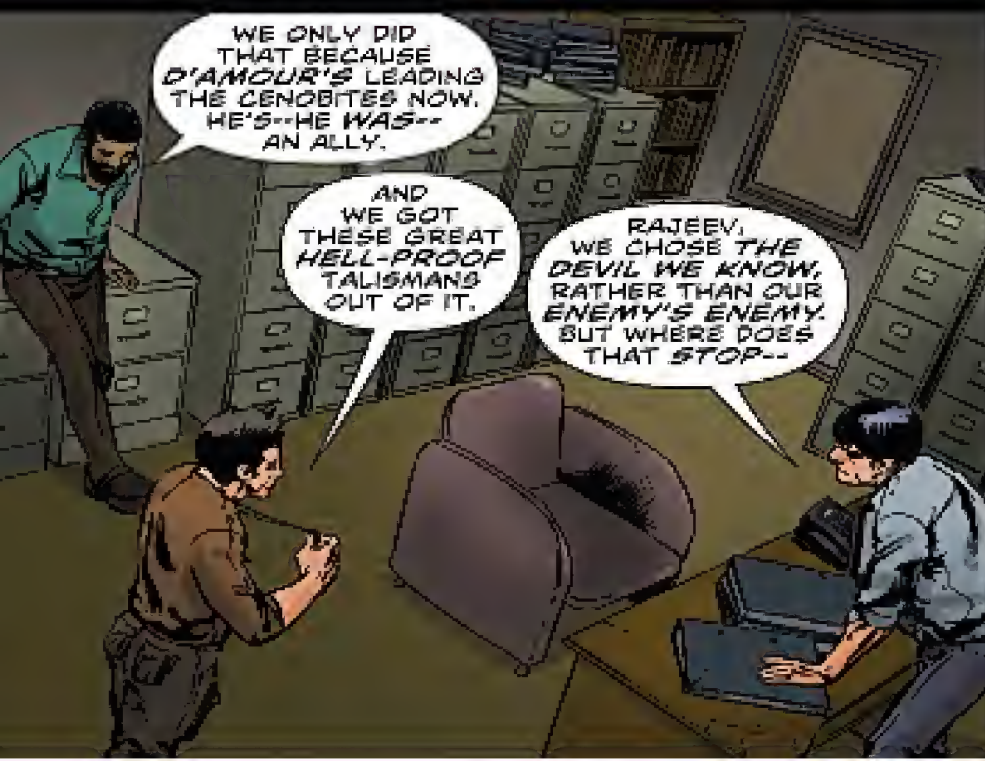
WHICHEVER WAY-- WE'RE ON A SLIPPERY SLOPE, HERE. AND WE HAVE BEEN SINCE THE CHURCH OF LOST SALVATION.

OR EVEN EARLIER-- WHEN WE FOUGHT THAT EREMIT.



WHEN I JOINED YOU PEOPLE, YOUR MISSIONS WERE STRICTLY *BREAKING AND ENTERING--STEALING LEMARCHAND'S DEVICES*. THEN THAT TURNED INTO MURDER-- AND THEN *DEMON-FIGHTING*. AND MOST RECENTLY, *HARROWING HELL--*

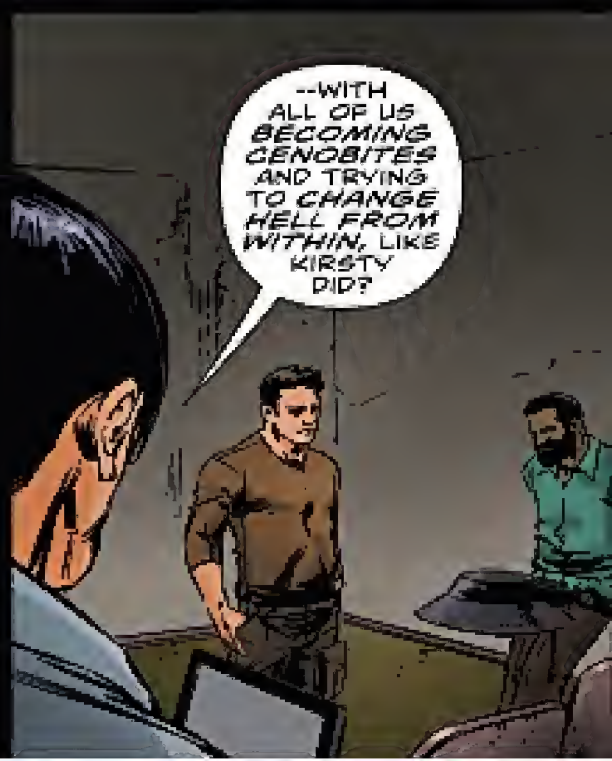
--TO HELP THE CENOBITES. THE ENEMY.



WE ONLY DID THAT BECAUSE D'AMOUR'S LEADING THE CENOBITES NOW. HE'S--HE WAS-- AN ALLY.

AND WE GOT THESE GREAT HELL-PROOF TALISMANS OUT OF IT.

RAJEEV, WE CHOSE THE DEVIL WE KNOW, RATHER THAN OUR ENEMY'S ENEMY. BUT WHERE DOES THAT STOP--



--WITH ALL OF US BECOMING CENOBITES AND TRYING TO CHANGE HELL FROM WITHIN, LIKE KIRSTY DID?



WE KNOW
HOW WELL
THAT WORKED
OUT FOR
HER--

--SHARING
A CELL IN
HELL WITH
ELLIOTT SPENCER--
HER WORST
ENEMY?



...UH...

BLOODY
HELL.



UM...MAYBE
THERE'S JUST
AN ELECTRICAL
PROBLEM?



IF ONLY,
SOMEBODY'S
OPENING A HELL
PORTAL--

--BUT
WHO?

MAYBE IT'S
D'AMOUR. OR
TIFFANY?

WHAT
IF IT'S
NOT?



SURE
WISH WE HAD
THAT KNIFE THAT
ACTUALLY KILLS
DEMONS...

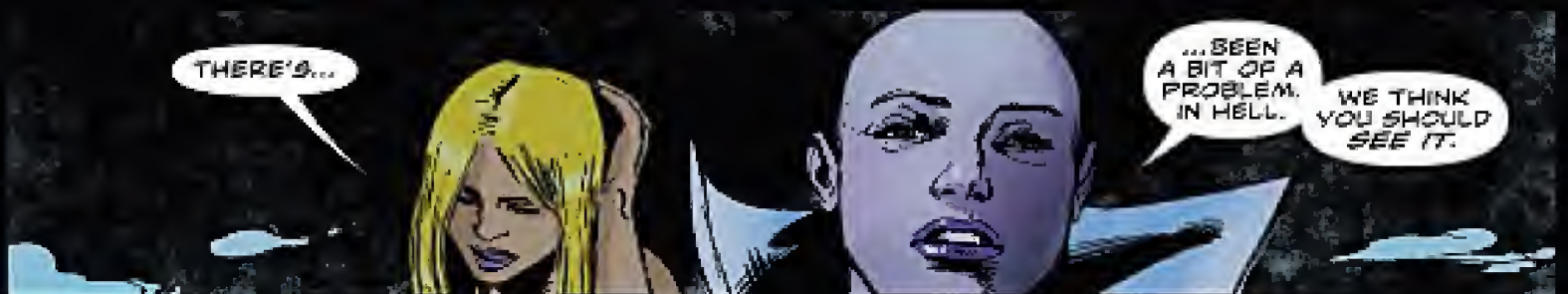


OH...



...I WAS
ACTUALLY
RIGHT?

SO WHY
DON'T EITHER
OF YOU LOOK
HAPPY?



THERE'S...

...SEEN
A BIT OF A
PROBLEM.
IN HELL.

WE THINK
YOU SHOULD
SEE IT.



NO.

...EXCUSE
ME?



WE JUST
HARROWED HELL--
AND THEO NEARLY
GOT KILLED...

BECAUSE
IT'S HELL. IT'S
ACTUALLY, FUCKING,
HELL. YOU PEOPLE THINK,
JUST BECAUSE YOU'VE
WALTZED IN AND OUT OF
THERE WITH LIFE AND
LIMB INTACT BEFORE,
YOU'RE ALWAYS
GOING TO BE
ABLE TO?



NOT ALL
OF US GOT
OUT WITH
LIFE AND
LIMB.

THAT'S RIGHT. HAVE
YOU ALL FORGOTTEN
WHAT HAPPENED THE
FIRST TIME THIS GROUP
ACTUALLY FOUGHT
A DEMON?

RAJEEV
DIED.



BUT D'AMOUR
BROUGHT HIM
BACK.

AND
I'D LOVE TO
SHOW HIM MY
GRATITUDE
FOR THAT.



RAJEEV
DIED AND
WENT TO
HELL, GOT
TORTURED BY
CENOBITES--
AND NOW HE
HAS TO FEED
ON PEOPLE
TO STAY
ALIVE.

IF WE
KEEP TAKING
STUPID RISKS, THAT
COULD HAPPEN TO ANY
OF THE REST OF US--
OR SOMETHING
EVEN WORSE.



YOU'RE
NORTON, RIGHT?
D'AMOUR'S OLD
SECRET AGENT
BUDDY?

YOU'VE
NEVER LOST A
LOVED ONE TO
THE CENOBITES,
HAVE YOU?

NO.

THEN TRY TO
PICTURE WHAT
IT'S LIKE TO LOSE
YOUR FATHER,
YOUR LOVER AND
LOTS OF YOUR
FRIENDS TO
THEM. LIKE
I HAVE.

OR YOUR
MOTHER TO
ONE OF THEIR
SERVANTS--
LIKE TIFFANY
DID. OR YOUR
WIFE, LIKE
RAJEEV.

PICTURE
THAT--



--AND
THEN TRY
TO UNDERSTAND
WHY WE'D GIVE
ANYTHING TO
FIGHT HELL.



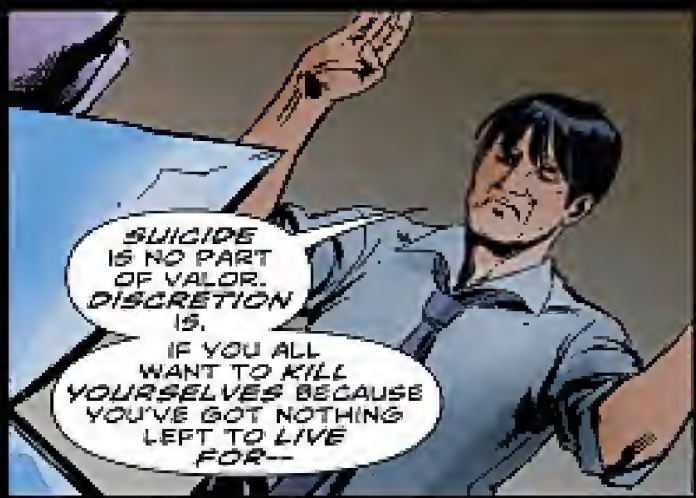
YEAH, YOU'VE GIVEN
UP A LOT. YOU GAVE UP
YOUR HUMANITY AND
BECAME HELL'S HIGH
PRIESTESS, IN SOME
HALF-COCKED SCHEME
FOR REVENGE.

JUST BY
EXISTING, YOU
MAKE MY POINT
BETTER THAN I
EVER COULD.



SUICIDE
IS NO PART
OF VALOR.
DISCRETION
IS.

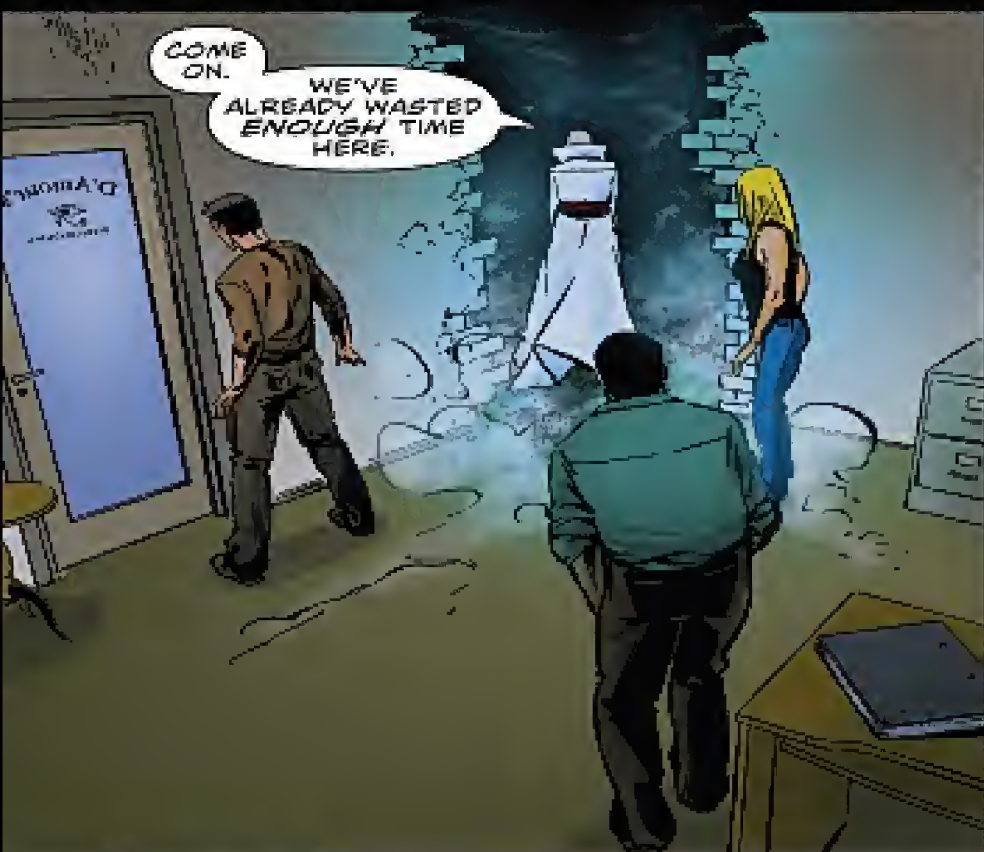
IF YOU ALL
WANT TO KILL
YOURSELVES BECAUSE
YOU'VE GOT NOTHING
LEFT TO LIVE
FOR--





--I
CAN'T
STOP
YOU.

BUT
I'M NOT
GOING TO
HELP YOU
DO IT.



COME
ON.

WE'VE
ALREADY WASTED
ENOUGH TIME
HERE.



...THEO?

YOU
COMING?



...



FUCK YOU,
NORTON.

YOU
BETTER NOT BE
RIGHT...



ELLIOTT SPENCER.



JUST "LEGATE," PLEASE. THIS IS HARDLY THE PLACE FOR CHRISTIAN NAMES.

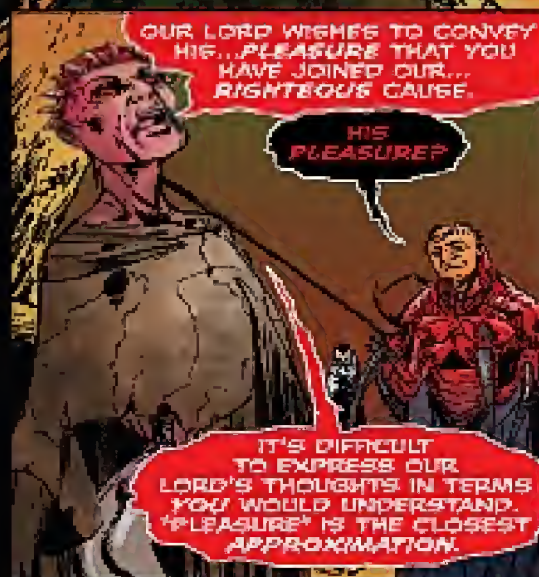
TO WHOM DO I SPEAK?



I AM THE EMBLYM OF ABADDON. OUR LORD SPEAKS THROUGH ME.

THAT'S YOUR LORD ABOVE US? THE MIGHTY ABADDON, ANGEL OF THE BOTTOMLESS PIT?

WHAT DOES HE WISH TO SAY TO ME?



OUR LORD WISHES TO CONVEY HIS... PLEASURE THAT YOU HAVE JOINED OUR... RIGHTEOUS CAUSE.

HIS PLEASURE?

IT'S DIFFICULT TO EXPRESS OUR LORD'S THOUGHTS IN TERMS YOU WOULD UNDERSTAND. "PLEASURE" IS THE CLOSEST APPROXIMATION.



HIS PLEASURES? THAT'S ALL?

IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, I HAVE A WAR TO BEGIN.

ABADDON ALSO HAS... A MESSAGE FOR YOU.



UNLESS YOU DO SOMETHING ABOUT HER...

...KIRSTY COTTON WILL BE THE RUIN OF US ALL.



THIS IS
RIDICULOUS.



I'M THE
PONTIFEX.
I'M HELL'S HIGH
PRIEST. HOW
AM I SUPPOSED
TO DO MY
JOB--

--IF
LEVIATHAN
DOESN'T TELL ME
ANYTHING?

DO NOT BE
PRESUMPTUOUS, D'AMOUR.
OUR LORD TELLS YOU WHAT
NEEDS TO BE KNOWN--

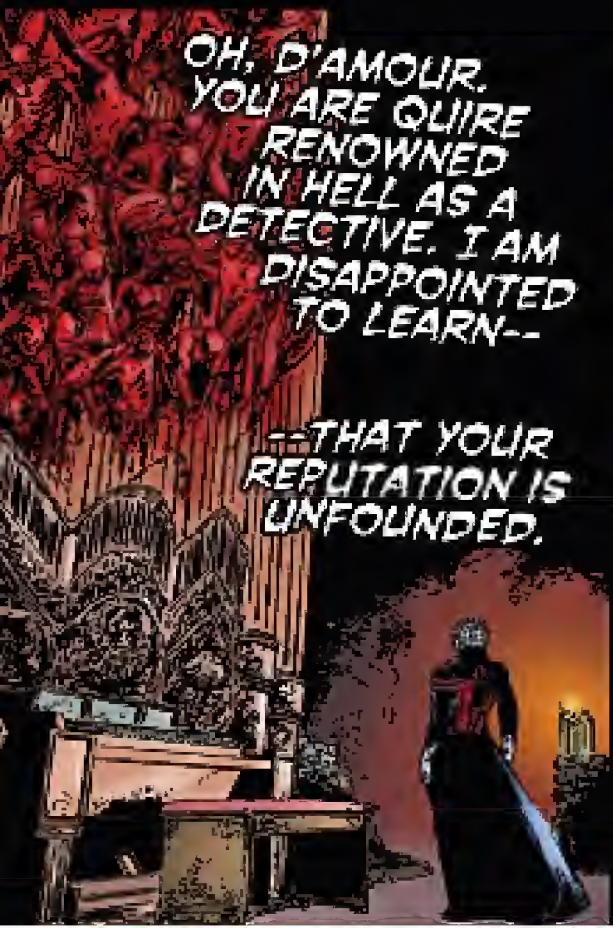
--WHEN
IT NEEDS
TO BE
KNOWN.



LEVIATHAN DOESN'T
TELL ME SHIT, BUT
THAT DOESN'T MEAN
I HAVEN'T FIGURED
IT OUT.

THIS IS ALL ABOUT THE
HOLE ELLIOTT SPENCER
TORE BETWEEN EARTH AND
THE LABYRINTH, ISN'T
IT? I WAS MADE
PONTIFEX--

--TO LEAD
THE INVASION
OF EARTH.



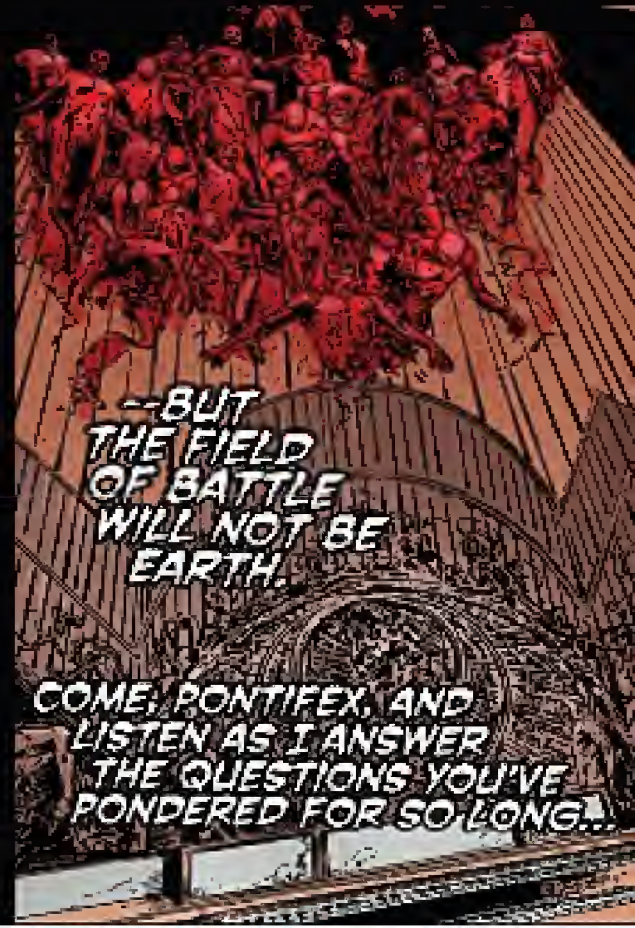
OH, D'AMOUR,
YOU ARE QUIRE
RENOWNED
IN HELL AS A
DETECTIVE. I AM
DISAPPOINTED
TO LEARN--

--THAT YOUR
REPUTATION IS
UNFOUNDED.



WHAT DO YOU
MEAN?

YOU ARE
TO LEAD A
WAR, YES--



--BUT
THE FIELD
OF BATTLE
WILL NOT BE
EARTH.

COME, PONTIFEX, AND
LISTEN AS I ANSWER
THE QUESTIONS YOU'VE
PONDERED FOR SO LONG.



WHAT IS IT?



NO IDEA.

WHEN SPENCER AND I BROKE OUT OF THE PRISON LEVIATHAN HAD US IN, IT JUST--TORE OPEN.

I WONDER WHERE IT LEADS...

THE OUBLIETTE.



D'AMOUR?

THE ABYSS. THE BOTTOMLESS PIT.


RULED BY ABADDON THE DESTROYER.

WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL US THIS BEFORE?



I DIDN'T KNOW, BEFORE.

TURNS OUT THERE'S A WHOLE OTHER LEVEL OF HELL UNDER THE LABYRINTH, FULL OF DEMONS AND LOST SOULS--THE VICTIMS OF THE SIN OF FURY.



SOUNDS, UH, CHEERFUL.

SO, THE OUBLIETTE'S OPEN, NOW, WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?



...THAT.



WHOA!

WHAT THE FUCK ARE THOSE?



LEGIONNAIRES.
THE DEMONS OF
THE OUBLETTE.

SUPPOSEDLY
THEY'RE THE
CHERUBIM, THE
SECOND-HIGHEST
ORDER OF
ANGELS---

--WHO
SIDED WITH
THE OLD ONE
DURING THE WAR
IN HEAVEN--



--IF YOU
BELIEVE ANY
OF THAT.

THEY'RE...
UH...

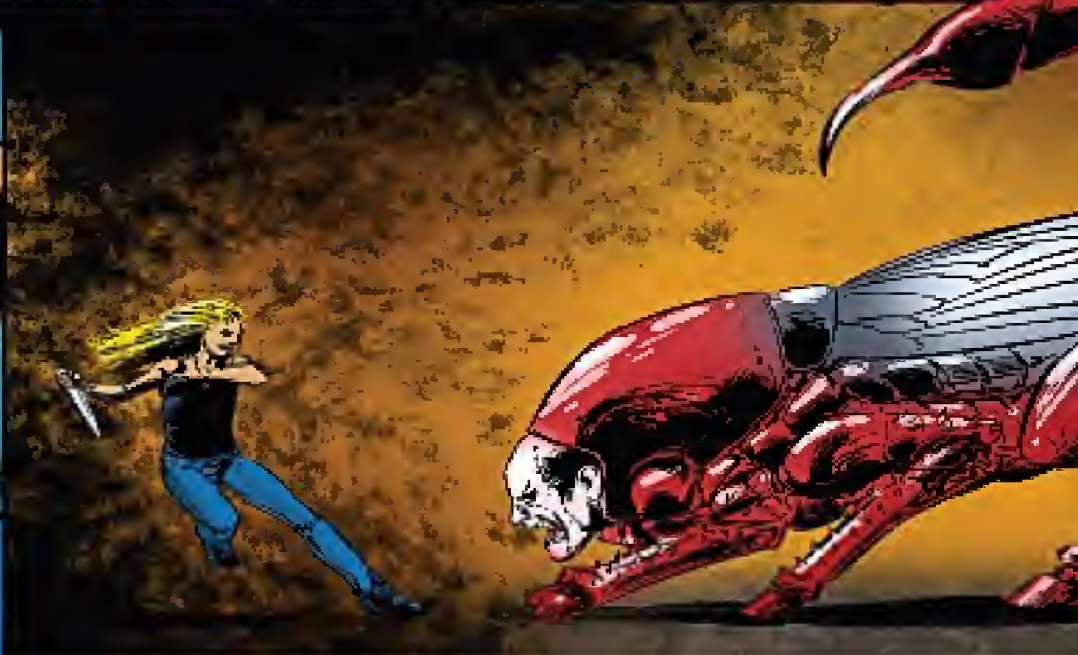
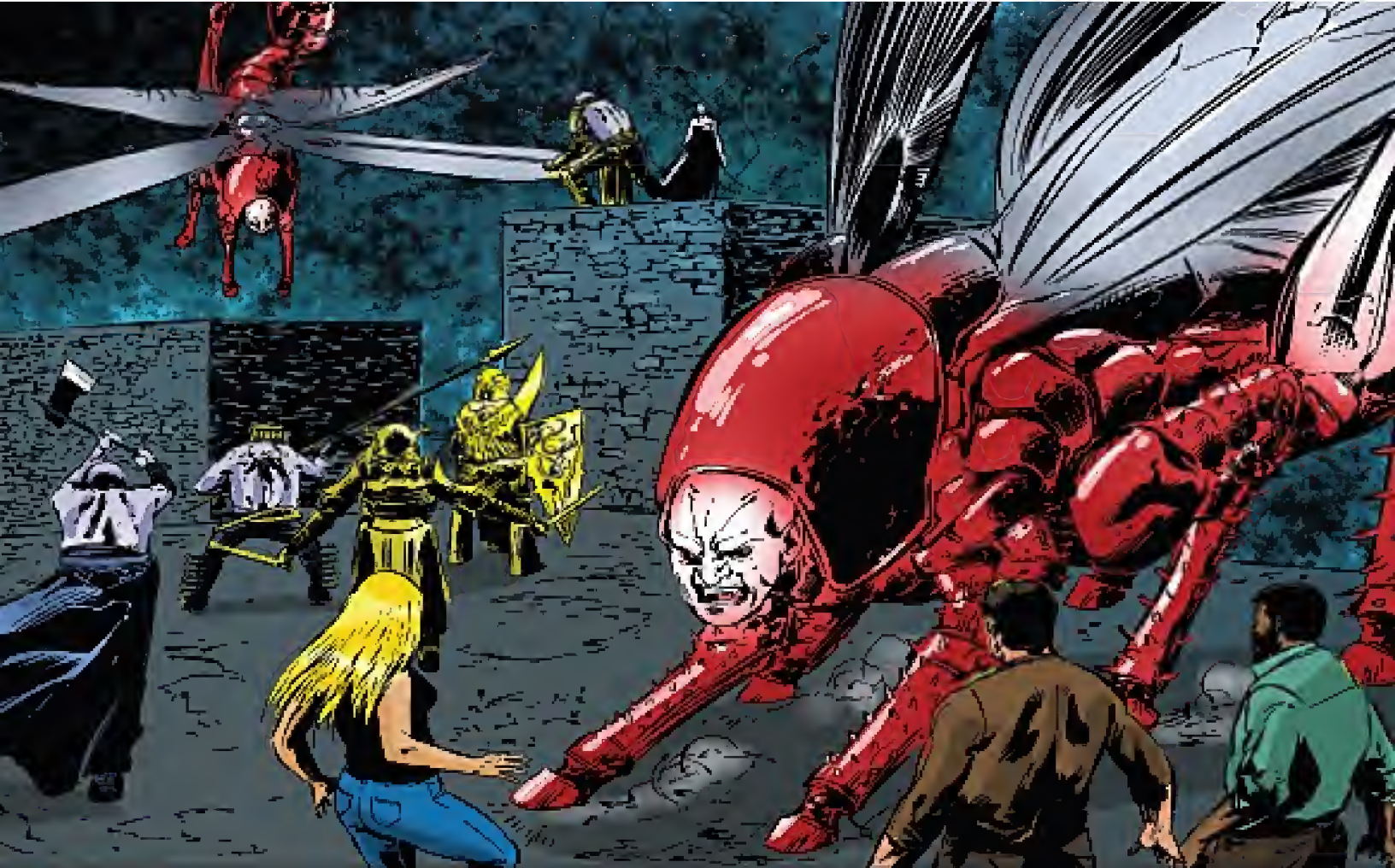
...COMING
THIS WAY.



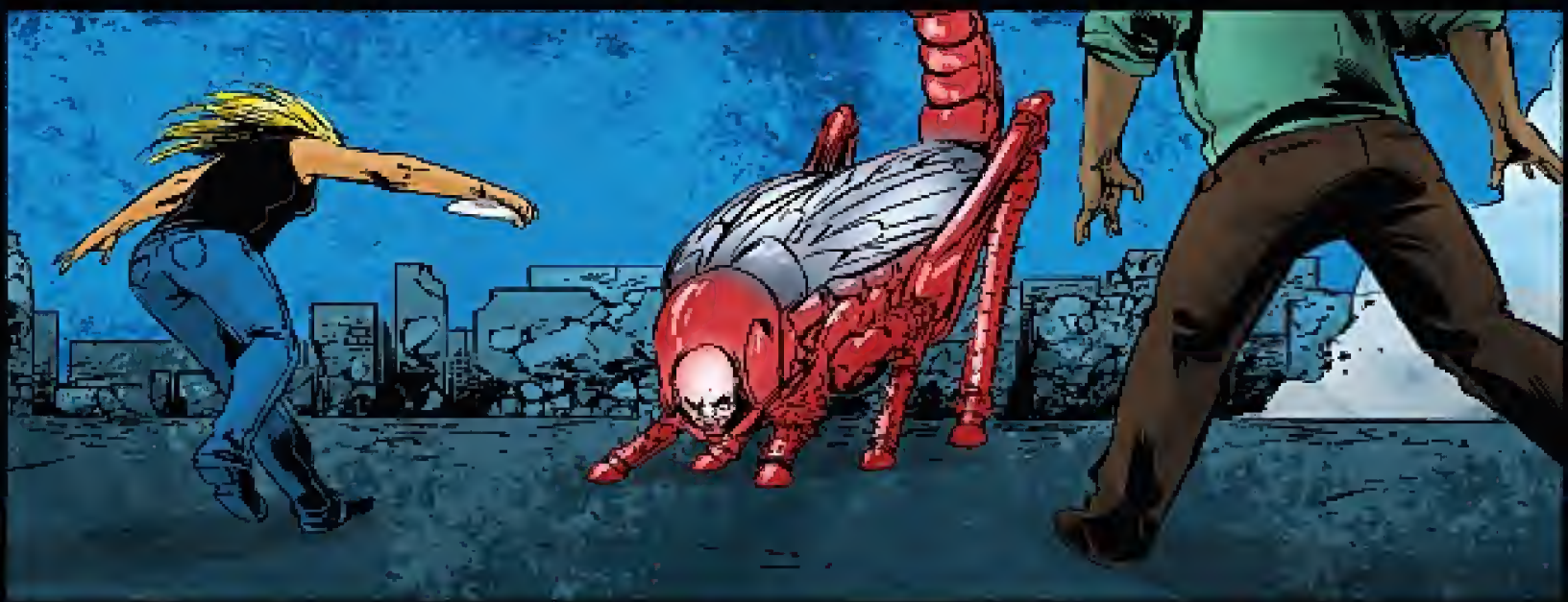
OF
COURSE
THEY ARE,
THEO.

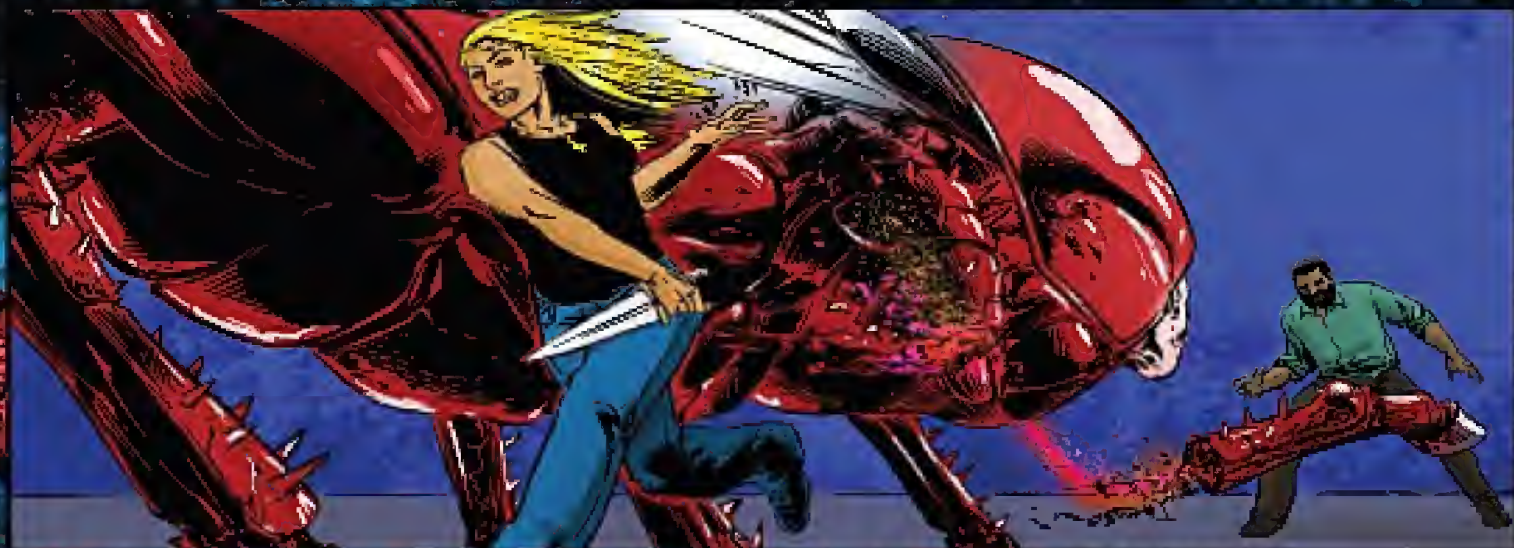
WHAT DO
YOU THINK IS
HAPPENING
HERE?

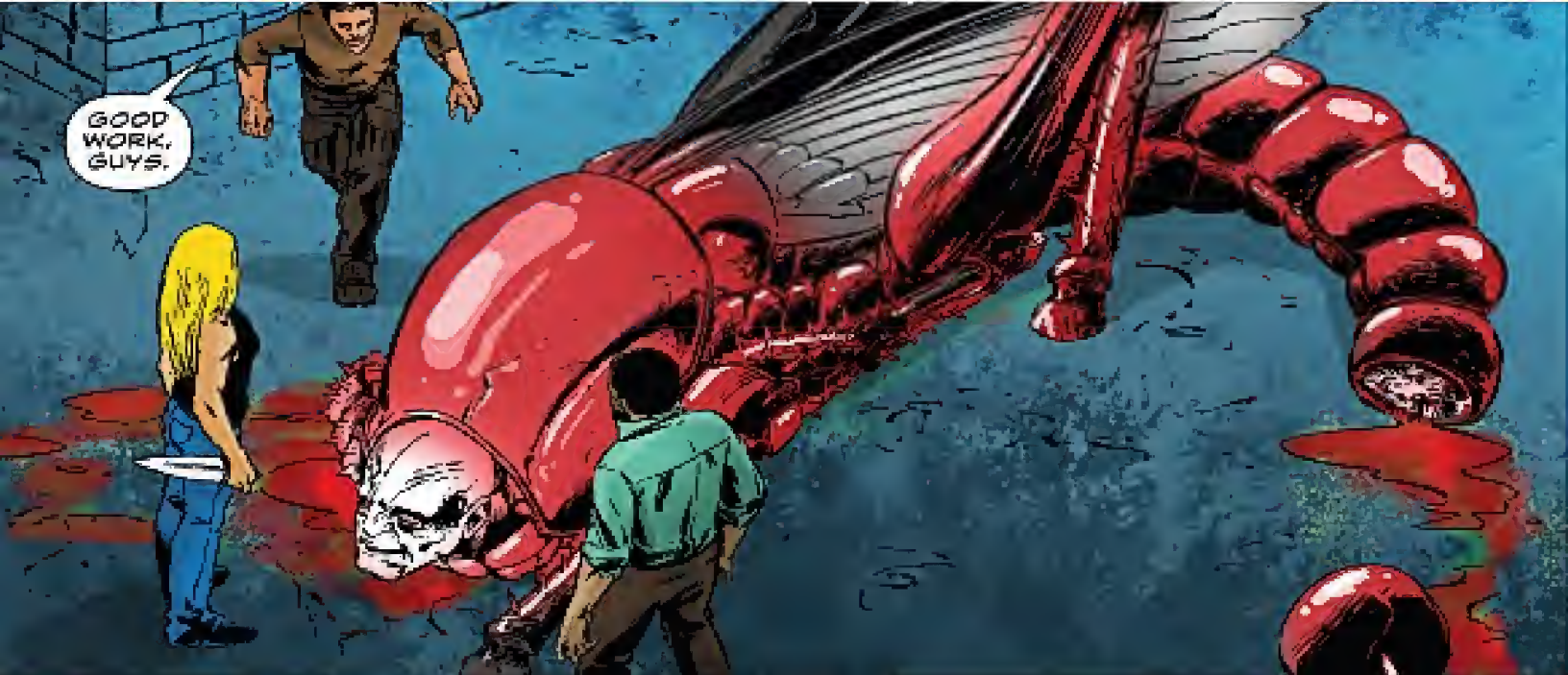




















WELL,
THAT'S AN
INTERESTING
TURN OF
EVENTS.

BUT
PROBABLY AN
IRRELEVANT
ONE.



YES.
SHAME IT WASN'T
TIFFANY WHO
DEFECTED.

OR
KIRSTY.



INDEED,
I'VE BEEN
DOING SOME
THINKING
ON THAT
MATTER.

ABADDON
WANTS A
FALLSAFE
AGAINST KIRSTY'S
INTERFERENCE...



"...THERE'S
SOMEONE
I'D LIKE YOU
TO FIND."



COME
ON. WE'RE
MOVING
YOU.

AND IF YOU'RE
LUCKY, SOON
YOU'LL BE REUNITED
WITH YOUR
DAUGHTER.



...KIRSTY?

TO BE CONTINUED!